



The 2009 INL Scholastic Tournament gathered students from around the state to test their math and science knowledge.

Students match wits at the 2009 INL Scholastic Tournament

by [Marilyn Whitney](#), INL Communications & Public Affairs

High school students from across the state recently converged at the Boise Centre on the Grove for the 19th annual Idaho National Laboratory Scholastic Tournament state finals.

The students spent the morning with Idaho science and technology experts before competing in buzz-in contests to answer questions about science, math and other topics. Regional meets in February and March qualified 28 teams to compete at the state level, and state winners are headed to the U.S. Department of Energy's National Science Bowl April 30 through May 5 in Washington, D.C.

Students began March 24 in Super Science Seminars with INL scientists Kevin Young, who conducted an interactive session on rocketry, and Hope Lee, who presented "Microbes: the good, the bad and the ugly."

Jefferson Jewell, co-founder and managing partner at Blackfin Technology and chairman of the Governor's Innovation Council, gave this year's keynote address at the tournament luncheon sponsored by Micron Technology. Jewell, a graduate of Boise High School, highlighted the need for U.S. students to pursue technical degrees and encouraged students to consider careers in Idaho.



Lakeland (Rathdrum) players concentrate during tournament play at this year's INL Scholastic Tournament competition.



INL researcher Hope Lee talks to students about microbiology during a Super Science Seminar at this year's INL Scholastic Tournament.

Afternoon and evening tournament play narrowed the field to two teams in each of the three divisions. Those six teams competed March 25 in matches videotaped by Idaho Public Television and broadcast on March 28.

Competing in their first Scholastic Tournament, Treasure Valley Math and Science Center (TVMSC) won this year's Class A championship match. TVMSC is a partnership program between the Boise and Meridian school districts that offers curriculum specifically designed for students with strong interests in mathematics and science. Their opponent in the finals, Hillcrest High School, staged a comeback in the second round, but couldn't catch TVMSC.

In Class B competition, Grangeville High School won its first state championship after edging out Marsh Valley High School. This was Grangeville's fifth trip to the state finals.

This year's North Region Champion, Coeur d'Alene Charter School, reclaimed the Class C championship and team members will make their second trip to the National Science Bowl.

Approximately 18,000 students from across Idaho have competed in the INL Scholastic Tournament in its 19-year history. Idaho has sent more teams to the National Science Bowl than any of the other approximately 66 regional tournaments in the United States.

Watch the videotaped [championship rounds](#).

Full Results of 2009 INL Scholastic Tournament:

Schools are classified by student enrollment — Class A schools are the large schools, Class B medium and Class C smaller schools.

Class A

- 1 – Treasure Valley Math and Science Center (Boise)
- 2 – Hillcrest (Idaho Falls)
- 3 – Moscow
- Consolation Champion – Bonneville (Idaho Falls)



Class B

1 – Grangeville

2 – Marsh Valley (Arimo)

3 – Buhl

Consolation Champion – McCall-Donnelly

Class C

1 – Coeur d'Alene Charter School

2 – Troy

3 – Logos (Moscow)

Consolation Champion – Cole Valley Christian (Boise)

***Class A champion team TVMSC, which
will travel to the U.S. Department of
Energy's National Science Bowl in
Washington, D.C.***

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